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THE TITLE-PAGE OF THE ELZEVIR GREEK
NEW TESTAMENT OF 1624.

BY ISAAC H. HALL.

IN "Appendix C" of Herman C. Hoskier's *A Full Account and Collation of the Greek Cursive Evangelium* 604, etc., on page 18, is a foot-note, which reads as follows:

"Willem's in his work on *Les Elzevier*, 8vo, 1880, page 61, says: 'Il existe des exemplaires avec un titre en rouge et en noir, qui portent pour nom de ville *Lugduni* (qu'on pouvait prendre pour Lyon); ce sont les exemplaires destinés aux pays *Catholiques*; les autres ont un titre en noir seulement et portent *Lugduni Batavorum*.' So that we have apparently three different issues of the edition of 1624, but my copy has three words on the title-page in red — *διαθηκη*, Testamentum, and Elzeviriana, which makes a *fourth*, and further, Mr. Omont of Paris, writing of the Bib. Nationale copy, says its title-page has *διαθηκη*, Testamentum, and *Ex off. Elzev.* in red, which would make a *fifth*! This is an interesting point to clear up, but the book is very rarely met with now, even in public libraries. (It is not at Bâle, nor in the Mazarine nor Ste. Geneviève at Paris, and there is only one I believe in all Oxford.)"

Evidently Mr. Hoskier misinterprets the French to get his number of variant title-pages. The expression "un titre en rouge et en noir" does not mean "one title red and another black," but "a red-and-black title"; i.e. the red and the black in the same title. The point is clearer still from the rest of the quotation: "les autres ont un titre en noir seulement" — the others have a title black only, or entirely in black. This reduces the number of variant titles within Mr. Hoskier's sources of information to four. At the time I read his note I knew of two distinct variations of title, having them in my own two copies; but I have since inquired concerning the copies within reach, to see what could be discovered in the matter.

1. I will first begin with that form of the title which seems to me to be the oldest; and here I copy from one of my own copies. The color is wholly (or only) black. See the opposite page, No. 1.

With this agree in all respects the copy formerly belonging to Dr. Ezra Abbot, now in the Harvard College Library; a copy owned by Wm. L. Andrews, Esq., of New York city; and with a trifling exception one of the copies owned by J. Rendel Harris. This exception is that no period occurs after ΔΙΑΘΗΚΗ nor after Elzeviriana, and no comma after TESTAMENTVM. But these discrepancies are probably owing either to a faulty impression or to a subsequent cleaning. If, however, the points never were there, or rather, were not in the form when the printing was done, doubtless Professor Harris possesses the title in its most ancient form.

2. The next form of the title I copy from my other copy of the book. It is in red and black, and appears to correspond exactly with the copy in the Bibliothèque Nationale, as described in Mr. Hoskier's foot-note. See the opposite page, No. 2. I have underscored the red portions.

Here the three lines (both their words and their points), ΔΙΑΘΗΚΗ., TESTAMENTVM., and Ex Officinâ Elzeviriana., are in red; the rest in black. There are other differences, however. The u in TESTAMENTVM is shaped like our lower-case u, not like a capital V, as in the other. In the first the word *editionibus* is divided, the line ending at the o-, followed by a hyphen, and the rest of the word coming on the next line. In this one, the whole word *editionibus* is in the same line, at its end. In this one, also, the word Officinâ has a circumflex accent on the last letter; the other omits it.

With this copy agrees exactly the copy in the library of Andover Theological Seminary, and almost exactly Professor Harris's other copy. His differs only (at least, in the copy he sends me) by prefixing the word Anno to the Roman numeral of the date.

3. Another variation occurs in the copy in the Library of the Theological Seminary at Hartford. This is exactly like No. 2, except that it has LVGDVNI, in place of Lugduni Batavorum, and over the final α in the word Elzeviriana it looks as if there had once been a circumflex accent; there being a mark present like the right-hand, or grave, stroke of that accent. In the other copies this word has no circumflex accent. This copy answers to those "avec un titre en rouge et en noir, qui portent pour nom de ville *Lugduni*," etc.,

No. 1.

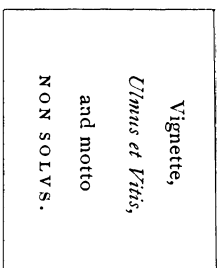
Η ΚΑΙΝΗ

ΔΙΑΘΗΚΗ.

Novum

TESTAMENTVM,

Ex Regijs alijsque optimis editionibus cum cura expressum.



No. 2.

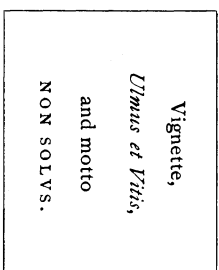
Η ΚΑΙΝΗ

ΔΙΑΘΗΚΗ.

Novum

TESTAMENTVM,

Ex Regijs alijsque optimis editionibus cum cura expressum.



Lugduni Batavorum,

Ex Officina Elzeviriana.

clōlōc xxiv.

Lugduni Batavorum,

Ex Officinâ Elzeviriana.

clōlōc xxiv.

of Willems. Probably also this was the form which Mill had, when he wrote that section of his *Prolegomena* concerning which I read a note to the Society some years ago.¹

These count up four varieties, or five if Prof. Harris's older copy presents a real variation. To these we must add Mr. Hoskier's copy, which makes a sixth. If the printer changed the ink on the two forms needed to strike off a rubricated title-page, there might easily be a seventh, an eighth, and a ninth, without making any more forms of type. Such a thing has been known to happen. For example, the title-page of the *editio princeps* of the Peshitto Syriac New Testament exists in three styles of printing: (1) the whole in black; (2) the letters in black and the vowels in red; (3) the letters in red and the vowels in black. All three are to be found in American libraries.

For information respecting the copies I have cited I am indebted to the several owners of those in private libraries, and to Professors J. H. Thayer, Geo. F. Moore, and A. C. Zenos for those in the other several libraries mentioned.

I may add, without going into detail, that Mr. Hoskier's criticisms of Scrivener's collations of the Elzevir of 1624 with the editions of other editors, and with the Elzevir of 1633, are borne out in all the copies accessible to me.

¹ See *Journal*, VII. 1. 41-46 (June 1887).